

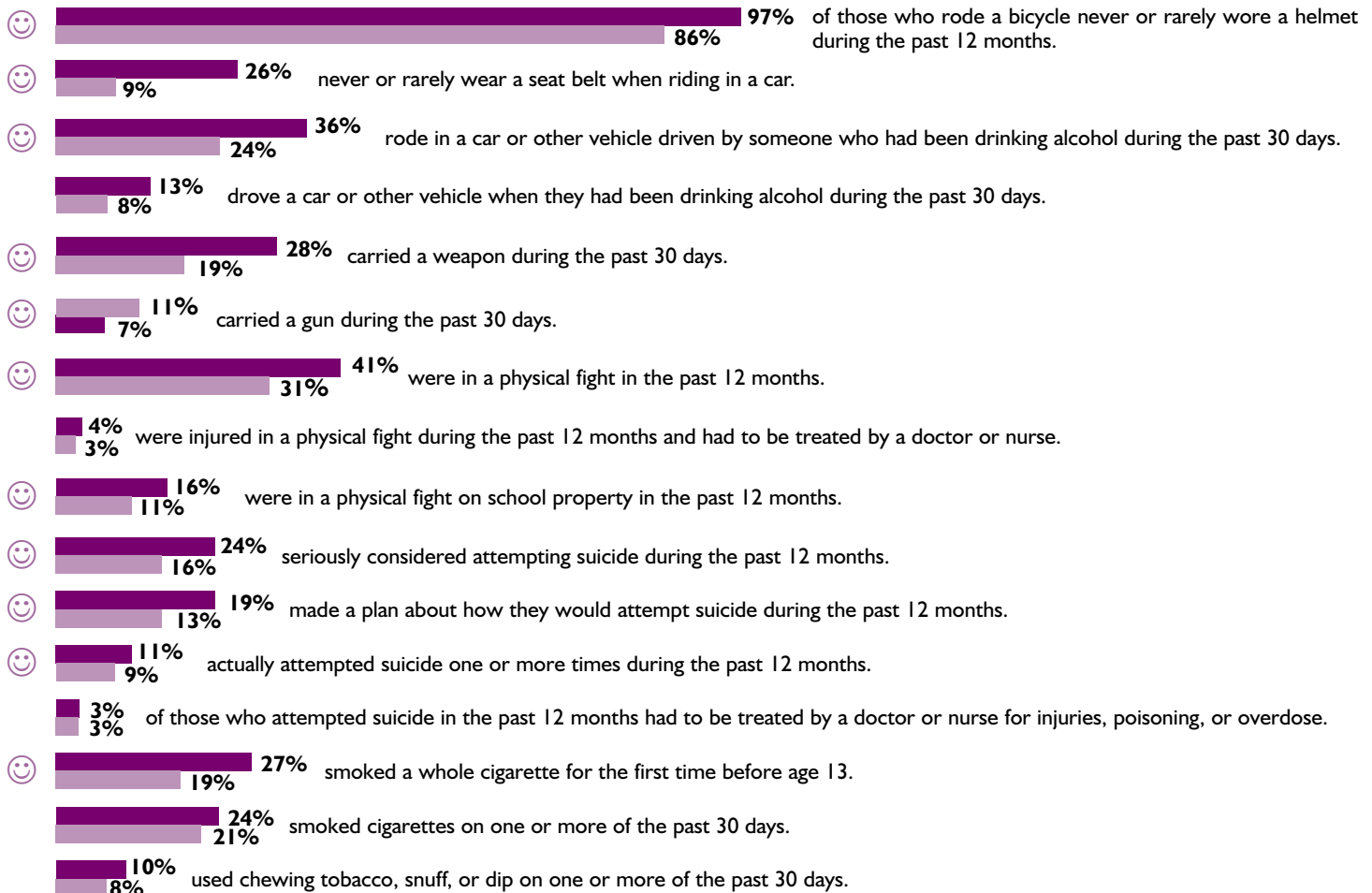
# 1993.2003

## Health Behaviors among Georgia Youth: A Decade of Change, 1993 and 2003

In an effort to monitor and prioritize health-risk behavior that puts Georgia's youth at-risk for the leading causes of morbidity, mortality, and social problems, the Georgia Department of Education and Department of Human Resources, Division of Public Health, conducted two statewide surveys from a random sample of public high schools. The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was carried out in 1993 by the Georgia Department of Education. The Georgia Student Health Survey (GSHS) was carried out in 2003 by the Georgia Department of Human Resources, Division of Public Health, in collaboration with the Georgia Department of Education. Topics covered in the YRBS and GSHS include unintentional injuries and violence; tobacco use; alcohol and other drug use; dietary behaviors; and physical activity. By monitoring these behaviors, Georgia can assess the overall progress of programs and policies to reduce the percentage of youth who are at-risk for developing what are, by and large, preventable health problems.

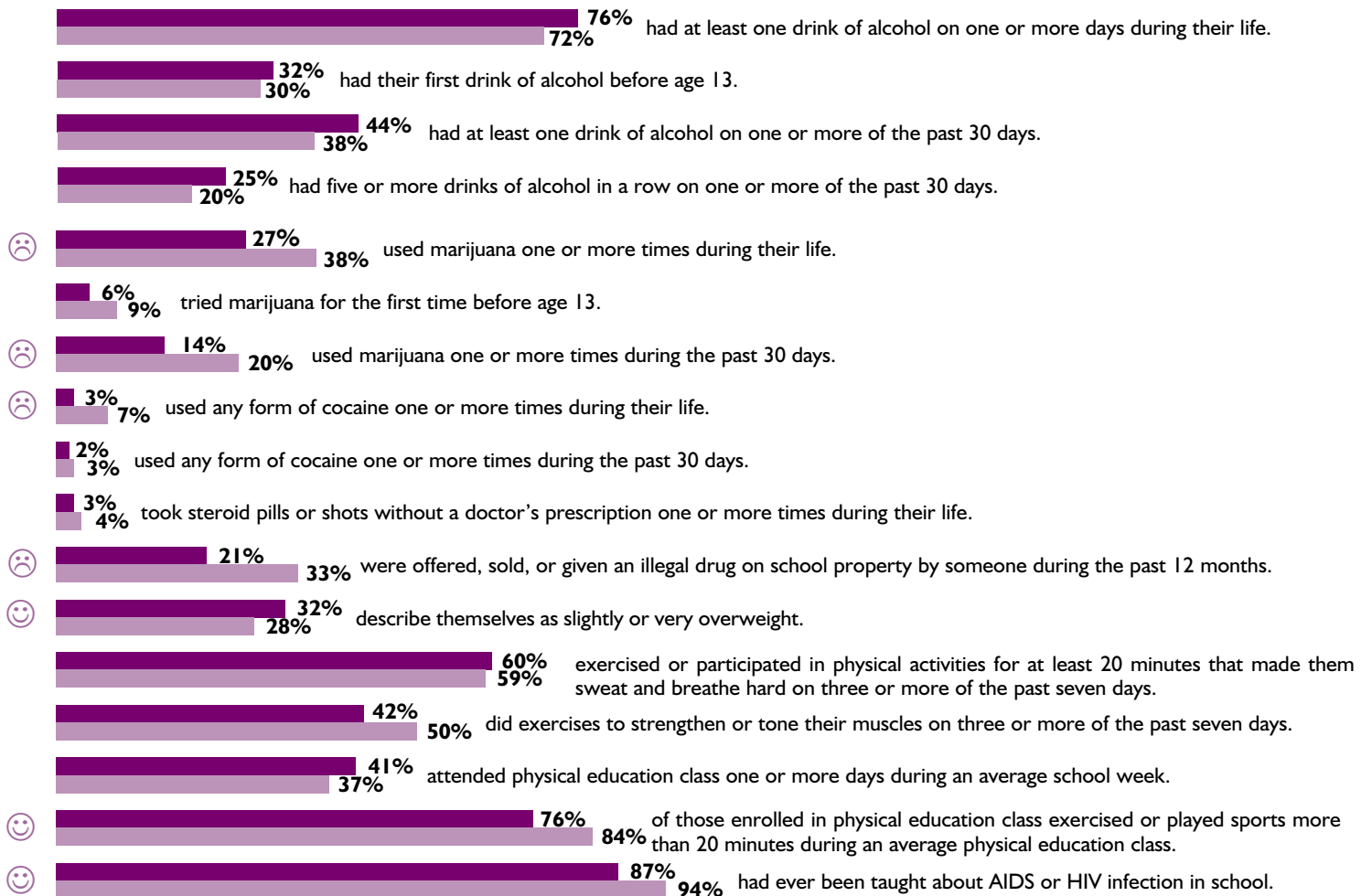
The graph below compares the results of the 1993 YRBS to those of the 2003 GSHS. Happy faces indicate that Georgia youth have improved significantly in a given topic area, whereas sad faces indicate a significant increase in specific health-risk behaviors. Topic areas without a happy or sad face did not experience significant change from 1993 to 2003.

■ 1993 ■ 2003





■ 1993 ■ 2003



In summary, this report compares the results of the 1993 YRBS to those of the 2003 GSHS. Although there were some encouraging changes from 1993 to 2003, especially in the areas of personal safety, violence, and suicide, there were also increases in the percentage of students who engaged in certain drug-related health-risk behaviors.